Assistance to Institutions Engaged in Exploring the Ancient Indian Texts

6660. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 183 on December 4, 1991 and state:

(a) whether the Government had assured to assist any institution or individual who is willing to plan and work to utilise/explore our ancient Indian texts for the development of technology in modern context;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of such institutions and individuals who are so receiving Government assistance and also those whose names are under consideration together with the specific project of each one and the quantum of assistance provided/being provided; and

(c) the guidelines laid down in this regard?

THE MINSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The projects/studies recently sponsored by the Government are:

Project:

1. Coordinated Programmes related to Technology Development in the Indian Languages, particularly role of Indian Sanskrit Tradition in Evolving Artificial Intelligence Systems. (Department of Electronics)

2. Foundations and methodologies of theoretical sciences (logic, linguistics, mathematics, cognitive science) in Indian tradition. (National Institute for Science, Technology and Development Studies). (NISTADS). (Rs. 57 lakhs).

Studies:

1. 'History of Science & Technology in Ancient India I. The Beginnings' by Debiprasad Chattopadhyaya .. NISTADS, 1986. (Rs. 7 lakhs).

2. 'History of Science & Technology in Ancient India II.. Formation of Theoretical Fundamentals of Natural Sciences, .. NISTADS, 1991. (Rs. 1 lakh)

(c) There are existing guidelines and mechanisms to promote reserach in various areas including development of modern technology utilising the Ancient Indian Texts.

Allotment of Plots to Farmers

6661. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 4348 on December 18,1991 and state:

(a) whether the Government have completed the investigations into the cases of irregularities in allotment of plots;

(b) if so, the findings of these investigations; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to expedite the investigations and the time by which that are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The 7 cases of irregularities men-

tioned in Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4348 dated 18.12.91 have been referred to Central Bureau of Investigation and it is not possible to indicate a definite time, by which C.B.I. will complete the investigations.

[*Translations*]

Raw Material Shortage in Northern Region

6662. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shortage of various raw materials has hit the industrial production in the Northern region and has also affected the exports as reported in the 'Stateman' dated March 11, 1992;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed by the Union Governemnt to ensure availability of raw materials to the industries and boost the production?

THE MINSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (c). Index of Industrial Production and Data on Exports are not being complied region-wise. Any shortage of raw materials is bound to affect industrial production and exports. According to Ministry of Coal, the industrial consumers including some consumers in Northern Region may have experienced shortfall in supply of coal due to priority movement of coal by rail to core sector consumers, particularly power utilities. According to Department of Steel there is general shortage of pig iron and certain items of steel in the country. Import of these items is allowed, Removal of margin money requirement on raw materials and intermediates and elimination of Import Licensing except for a small Negative List of specified items, decanalisation of vital raw material and provision for import of most of industrial inputs as and when required, as provided in the Import & Export Policy, 1992-97, will facilitate quicker and easier availability of raw materials to the Industry and boost industrial production.

[*English*]

Collaboration of Hindustan Motors with General Motors of USA

6663. SHRI RABI RAY:
DR. Y.S RAJASEKHAR REDDY;

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Motors has entered into a collaboration agreement with the General Motors of USA for manufacturing fuel efficient cars and automotive components; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Government have approved a proposal of M/s. Hindustan Motors Limited, Calcutta for setting up of a Joint Venture project with M/s. General Motors Corporation, U.S.A for manufacture of fuel efficient passenger cars within the existing licenced capacity. The foreign equity participation by the collaborator would be approximately 30% and there would be a balancing of foreign exchange outgo through export earnings.

Revamping of HFC

6664. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: